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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE



In re patent application of

Nobuyuki ENOMOTO

Serial No.: 10/642,203

Group Art Unit: 2419

Filing Date: August 18, 2003

Examiner: Jeffrey M. Rutkowski

For: NETWORK SYSTEM, SPANNING TREE CONFIGURATION METHOD
AND CONFIGURATION PROGRAM, AND SPANNING TREE
CONFIGURATION NODE

Honorable Commissioner of Patents
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

Under the provisions of 37 CFR §1.97 through §1.98 and pursuant to Applicant's duty of disclosure under 37 CFR §1.56, Applicant respectfully brings the following document cited in the Chinese Office Action in a counterpart foreign application and listed on the attached form PTO-1449, to the attention of the Examiner in charge of the above-identified application.

In compliance with the concise explanation requirement under 37 CFR §1.98(a)(3) for foreign language documents, Applicant encloses herewith a copy of the Chinese Office Action citing such document, together with an English-language version (if not already included) of that portion of the Office Action indicating the degree of relevance found by the foreign office.

This citation does not constitute an admission that the reference is relevant or material to the claims. It is only cited as constituting related art of which Applicant is aware.

I hereby certify that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was the first citation of that item by a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, which occurred not more than three months prior to the filing of this statement.

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U.S. Application Serial No. 10/642,203
MA-584-US
(MAT.026)

It is respectfully requested that the listed reference be considered by the Examiner and formally made of record in this application.

Submitted herewith is a check in the amount of \$180.00 to cover the Information Disclosure Statement fee.

Please charge any deficiencies in fees and credit any overpayment of fees to Attorney's Deposit Account No. 50-0481.

Respectfully submitted,

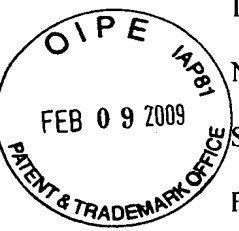


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